



École Willow Point Elementary

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Website: <http://www.sd72.bc.ca/willowpoint/> November 2021

★ Safe Thoughtful Accountable Respectful Students ★

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

On Monday, November 1st, all district staff participated in a virtual conference on the theme of Indigenous education. We had two keynote speakers in the morning: 1) Jesse Went, journalist and broadcaster, who talked about inclusion, diversity and truth and reconciliation; and 2) Kevin Lamoureux, a faculty member at the University of Winnipeg who talked about the role of schools in truth and reconciliation. In the afternoon, we had the choice of a variety of workshops. The common thread in all the sessions was the need to confront some truths and to provide a safe space to all our students so that schools become a place of healing.

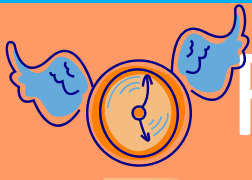
November 25th is student-led conferences, school will not be in regular session. This year, our conferences will happen in person. We will send you further information regarding the format. In the fall, you should have received a communication from your child's teacher about learning behaviors, literacy (reading, writing, and oral language) and numeracy. In November, teachers will provide you with an update.

Remembrance Day Unfortunately we cannot hold a school-wide assembly once again this year so we will be holding a commemoration through the PA and in class.

Literacy We continue to focus on literacy and have created "protected" literacy blocks for all classes from grades 1 - 5. This means that classes do not have anything else scheduled at that time (e.g. music, library, gym) and engage students in daily practice in the following areas depending on the grade level: phonemic awareness, phonics, reading decodable texts, word work, vocabulary, writing words and sentences, and reading with teacher. Carly Whitmore, Rachel Black and I provide literacy support in classes during literacy blocks.

We are looking forward to connecting with you at the conferences later this month!

Louise Guèvremont and Rachel Black



Reminders



Late & Absences

Late and Absences

If you drop off your child late in the morning, please bring him/her to the front door and call the office. Someone will come out and let your child in. In the case of Kindergarten children, we will take them to the modulars.

We do encourage students to come on time but understand there are days when it is not possible. If there is anything we can do to support you, please let us know.

Please call the attendance line 923-4311 and leave the **reason** for absence.

LOST & FOUND

Please remind your child to check the **Lost & Found**, (now located on the bench in the front entry.)there are a few items in it. If your child is missing something, you may come in the front door and check.

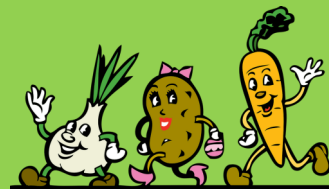
Please be sure to dress your child appropriately, and please pack an extra set of clothes. The students go out for both recess breaks, even if raining . Boots and weather proof jackets are a must.



FRESH TO YOU FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who ordered Vege Packs. We made a whopping \$2450.00 profit. This will be divided between all classes for Field Trips Etc.

Stand by for an update on delivery date, sometime between Nov 15-26/21.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day  <i>Let's not forget</i>	12	13
14	15 PAC Meeting 6:00 pm	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Pizza Lunch 	25 Student Led Conferences No regular classes	26	27
28	29	30				



Once again, a fabulous Birthday Board by Shelley!!

Happy Birthday to these students

Tali	Eli	Amelia C	Lachlann	Kiptyn
Alyia	Regan	Neve	Lily	Luvina
Hadrian	Ashley	Lachlyn	Eli	Cian

BONNE FETE

October 28, 2021

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2021-2022

Dear Parents,

It is with excitement that we start a new year of Battle of the Books! This year's themes are adventure and fun.

Battle of the Books is a long standing tradition in SD72. It is an extra-curricular reading challenge that is completely OPTIONAL. Students in grade 3 - 5 work together in teams of 3 to read all the books in their grade level selection. At the end of February, teams will compete against each other here at EWP. The winning team from each grade will advance to a Zone battle, and compete against the winners of 2 or 3 other schools. Again, the winning team advances to District, which will be held just before Spring Break.

While the Battle itself is a quiz show type event, it is the learning that goes on in class time and in lunch clubs that makes Battle of the Books meaningful. In the past, we have shared a collaborative document. This year, we will use Teams to share information and connect with our teammates.

If your child signs up for Battle, it is with the understanding that they are committing to reading the books (or some of them) and working with their team for the duration of the challenge. Sign up sheets are posted outside of the library.

If you have questions about any of the Battle of the Books titles, please contact me: lila.armstrong@sd72.bc.ca. The book lists will be released next week.



It's going to be an Adventure



BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE EARS

Ear infections or middle ear fluid occur in nearly two-thirds of all children by the age of three years! Ear infections are the most common reason children see the doctor. Ear infections can lead to fluid behind the eardrum, leading to a temporary hearing loss. When the fluid is gone hearing usually goes back to normal. This can take up to three months. Frequent ear infections can cause difficulties with pronunciation, language and learning.

If your child has an ear problem, be sure to let the teacher know. Ear problems can make it hard for your child to hear, listen and learn at school. If the hearing loss persists, contact a [Public Health Unit](#) Hearing clinic to arrange a hearing test for your child.

For more information contact: Your local [Public Health Unit](#) Hearing Clinic

Hearing Clinics:

Nanaimo 250-755-6200

Courtenay 250-331-8526



EATING TOGETHER, EATING BETTER

With busy schedules, it can be hard to find time for family meals. **Making the time for family meals is worth it.**

Children who eat with an adult almost every day:

- Are more connected to their families and friends
- Do better in school
- Are less likely to engage in high risk behaviors like smoking, alcohol and drug use
- Have less risk of depression and suicide
- Make healthier food choices and are more likely to maintain healthy growth and weight

Not sure how to get started? Here are some ideas:

- Make family meals a priority. Schedule meals the same way you schedule other activities.
- involve your children in planning, preparing and meal clean-up. Give everyone a job to do.
- Keep table talk positive and supportive. Focus on the good things that happened in everyone's day, such as things learned at school, good deeds done, a book you are reading or a joke you have heard.

For more ideas and resources, check out [Better Together](#)!

Children and teens say eating together as a family is one of the things they like to do with their parents. Eating together is good for the whole family.

For more information:

Your local [Public Health Unit](#)

[HealthLinkBC and Dietitian Services](#) or dial 8-1-1 and ask to speak to a Registered Dietitian (a free call)

FEEDING THE LUNCH BUNCH



Lunch is an important time for children at school. The midday meal gives kids energy to concentrate, learn and be active all afternoon.

To make a balanced lunch, choose foods that include protein, long-lasting, energy-providing carbohydrate and healthy fat.

Make lunch interesting. Mix and match any of these ideas for a tasty, healthy lunch:

Kids are more likely to eat lunch when they help make it. Involve children in planning and packing lunches. Young children can wash fruits and veggies and can choose from what is offered. Older children can make their lunch with your help.

½ of Your Plate: Vegetables and fruit	¼ of Your Plate: Plant-based or lean animal protein		¼ of Your Plate: Whole grains	
Celery and carrot sticks or peppers	Tofu and soy based products	Milk	Whole grain bread	Pack a safe lunch
Sliced cucumber	Nuts and seeds	Chocolate milk	Crackers	Wash your hands well with warm soapy water.
Broccoli and cauliflower “trees”	Bean spreads or dips	Yogurt	Mini bagels or buns	Pack your child’s lunch in an insulated lunchbox.
Fresh, frozen or canned fruit	Lean meat	Cheese	Tortilla	Keep hot foods hot in a thermos.
	Tuna or salmon	Fortified soy beverage	Roti or naan bread	Keep cold foods cold with an ice pack.
	Chili	Cottage cheese	Pita bread	Remind children to wash their hands before eating.
	Eggs		Small muffins	After school each day, wipe down your child’s lunchbox with warm soapy water.

For more information and great lunch ideas:

Your local [Public Health Unit](#)

[HealthLinkBC and Dietitian Services](#) or dial 8-1-1 and ask to speak to a Registered Dietitian (a free call)

[Healthy Families BC](#)

[Better Together BC](#)

[Lunch](#)

[es to Go](#) (PDF)